

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (original) A method for fabricating media having contaminant-sorbent and antimicrobial properties, the method comprising:

(a) irrigating a multitude of contaminant-sorbent polymer particles with a solution containing an antimicrobial compound;

wherein

(b) the antimicrobial compound and the polymer of the particles are reactive together; and

(c) the polymer is substantially phobic to water and to the solution;

whereby the antimicrobial compound grafts onto the polymer particles and, upon contact with water, the polymer particles sorb contaminants from the water and reduce proliferation of microbial organisms.

Claim 2 (amended) The method of claim 1 wherein irrigating particles comprises irrigating a multitude of loose granules or fragments with the solution, wherein substantially all surfaces of each individual particle is exposed to the solution.

Claim 3 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein irrigating particles comprises irrigating a multitude of polymer particles that are hydrocarbon-sorbent.

Claim 4 (original) The method of claim 3 further comprising:

(a) substantially drying the solution from polymer particles that are granules; and

(b) extruding the polymer particles into fragments of filter media.

Claim 5 (original) The method of claim 4 further comprising supporting the fragments about an open recess within a filter module, whereby the filter module is capable of both removing oil from water passing into the open recess and reducing proliferation of microbial organisms.

Claim 6 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein providing the solution comprises providing, dissolved in water, a quantity of an organosilane compound not susceptible to self-condensation in water.

Claim 7 (original) The method of claim 6 further comprising dissolving the organosilane compound in the water to prepare the solution.

Claim 8 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein irrigating the polymer particles with the solution comprises immersing the particles in a static volume of the solution for a predetermined period of time.

Claim 9 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein:

(a) irrigating the polymer particles comprises irrigating particles substantially consisting of a mixture of:

(1) particles of styrene-butadiene-styrene or hydrogenated styrenic block copolymer; and

(2) particles of ethylene propylene monomer or ethylene propylene diene monomer;

(b) the particles of ethylene propylene monomer or ethylene propylene diene monomer comprise about 10-30% of the mixture, by weight; and

(c) the particles of styrene-butadiene-styrene or hydrogenated styrenic block copolymer are comprised of about 25-45% styrene and are in the range of about 4-20 mesh.

Claims 10-20 (canceled)